



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

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Released: April 21, 2011

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Idaho March Red Meat Production Down 22 Percent from Last Year

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for March 2011 totaled 13.4 million pounds, down 22 percent from March of last year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. Accumulated red meat production for the January-March 2011 period totaled 41.5 million pounds, down 18 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.35 billion pounds in March, up 2 percent from the 4.28 billion pounds produced in March 2010. Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 2 percent from March 2010. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,276 pounds. Veal production totaled 12.1 million pounds, 1 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,900 head, down 9 percent from March 2010. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from last year, at 283 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.87 million head, down 2 percent from March 2010. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from the previous year, at 278 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 14.1 million pounds, was down 20 percent from March 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 193,900 head, 26 percent below last year. The average live weight was 146 pounds, up 11 pounds from March a year ago. January to March 2011 commercial red meat production was 12.2 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 16 percent.

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